Specification Amendments

Replace the paragraph between page 10, line 6 and page 11, line 8 with the following:

--Referring now to the figures of the drawings in detail and first, particularly to FIG. 1 thereof, there is shown, fitted in a dishwasher and/or washing machine, a light-guiding body 10 into which light is introduced such that it propagates inside the body 10 on a predetermined beam path 40, and is reflected internally in the process on an outer surface 12 of the body 10. The deposits to be detected 1 can occur on the outside of the outer surface 12. Such reflection is denoted below as "internal reflection" because the light used for measurement is propagated and/or reflected only inside the body 10. After internal reflection, a detector 30 receives the light. If deposits 1 occur on the outer surface 12 on the body 10, they influence the light reflection properties of the surface 12. As a result, the signal level of the internally reflected light changes by comparison with the signal level of the originally introduced light. Consequently, the light detected after internal reflection, or its signal level, is measured as a measure of deposits 1 on the body 10. If the measurement exceeds a predetermined limiting value, the detector 30 or a control unit 31 connected thereto generates



PAGE 3/27 * RCVD AT 1/29/2004 4:52:16 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/0 * DNIS:8729319 * CSID:+9549251101 * DURATION (mm-ss):05-42

signals that are fed to devices to avoid further deposits 1 or to reduce existing deposits 1. Such devices can include, for example, devices that feed auxiliaries (for example, for ion exchangers 32), and/or devices 33 that inform the user, either optically and/or acoustically, that excessively thick deposits 1 have occurred. These devices, which become active in the event of excessively thick deposits 1, are preferably connected directly to the dishwasher or are integrated therein.--



PAGE 4/27 * RCVD AT 1/29/2004 4:52:16 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/0 * DNIS:8729319 * CSID:+9549251101 * DURATION (mm-ss):05-42